

hospitals to bring into this body I think will only help the process. There is a lot of bookwork and there is a lot of accountants that get paid by the hospital to send this information out, and I don't think one other form or other information that has to be provided as a way for them to exist as a, for the most part, nonprofit corporate body, supply that information to the state and eventually to the Legislature I think will help us make a more informed decision. So that is why I am going to be supporting the amendment.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Senator Elmer, followed by Senator Warner.

SENATOR ELMER: Thank you, Mr. President. We are talking about more red tape. I'm going to just repeat something that Paul Harvey has said on one of his radio broadcasts about running a hospital. It is kind of an analogy. There is no way to make a grocery store prices...there is a way to make grocery store prices higher than they are. As is, food is one of the consumers best bargains. The cost of living would be much higher than it is except for comparatively reasonable food prices, but there is a way to skyrocket those grocery store prices if you want to. If you want to multiply the prices of everything you buy at the grocery store, here is how. Subject your grocer to the same regulations and government red tape which your hospitals are required to operate under. That means, the grocer would have to keep a record of the total number of customers served broken down by employer. He would have to record the precise number of minutes each customer was in the store. The record must show which customers purchased only meat and nothing else, which customers purchased only bread and nothing else, which customers bought both bread and meat. Separately, the grocer's report must state which customers bought meat and milk; also, the number of customers who came in for one item and purchased more than one. Further, the grocery store is required to give away \$50,000 worth of groceries each year and signs must be posted in the store in three languages telling customers that the store is required to do this. Records must be maintained on all customers and all groceries given away. Further, for one half of the customers, the store is not allowed to set prices. Government will determine those prices. And if those prices are arbitrarily held down to no more than last year's prices, then the store owner must pay his other higher expenses by charging higher prices to the other half of his customers. But for that half, the store cannot